

LEAGUE PLAYERS' CORNER

Greater Dallas Shuffleboard Association (GDSA)

January 2005 Report on GDSA League Format (Dallas, Texas area)
Report & Photos Submitted By: Sal Mancuso (received Jan. 9, 2005)

DALLAS, TEXAS (GDSA): Greater Dallas Shuffleboard Association

The GDSA has operated in its current format with minor changes since 1995, when it was reorganized from its old method of operation under the name of the United States Shuffleboard Association. Under these two names we have been in existence since 1984, making us Dallas' oldest and largest league, with 3 stated purposes:

- 1) To promote the shuffleboard through its members in and around the greater Dallas area;
- 2) To provide a profitable return for sponsoring bars/clubs that enter teams into our league, and
- 3) To give back to our community through charitable contributions to our adopted charity – The Cancer & Blood Disorders Unit at Children's Medical Center of Dallas.

The league is administered through a Board of Directors. Each team elects a Captain at the start of the season, and this person becomes their elected representative on the board of directors. In addition, the membership elects a President, Secretary and Treasurer. Together with the Board Chairman they form the Executive Committee, which oversees the daily operation and administration of the players.

The adopted method of play for us on Tuesdays is a best-of-nine match that pits Pairs of players from each team in a game to 11 points. This shortened game is necessary in order to give each player the chance to play a reasonable amount of games (3) and still get them home at a decent hour, safely. The league also employs a handicap system, using a rating system not unlike the Bowers System in use today for tournaments. Ratings are done through the team captains and by ballot, twice yearly.

Weekly cost to the players is \$5.00, and if their team wins the match they get \$6.00, and \$2.00 for a loss, payable at the end of the season. A 2 division system is used for standings, but all teams play each other at least once. The Divisions become important at playoff time, as the playoffs are seeded, with the top 8 teams playing in Division 1 and all others playing in Division 2 in a double-elimination format.

To briefly summarize what makes this system work here – in part or in whole – is that it has been designed for the overwhelming majority of our members. These are just average people that want to get together with their friends on Tuesday and enjoy themselves by socializing, playing shuffleboard and being given a measure of fair hope that they can win a match, no matter who they are playing against. They will spend \$5.00 to play, but will not usually play \$10.00 tournaments or travel to one. Since these players are the same people that make prize packages possible for the better teams, it only makes sense that our program be tailored around this player without over handicapping the more

one, to the mutual benefit of the organization and its sponsors. If you ask any bar/club owner in greater Dallas, they will tell you what I already know and we believe: that the Greater Dallas Shuffleboard Association is the best bargain in the city for business, and 24 teams and 160 members-at-large will agree with them.

GDSA Executive Committee



Bottom Center (Above): Sandy Eddy (Secretary)
Back Row (Above: L-R):
Brenda Denny (Treasurer)
Johnny Perez (President)
Sal Mancuso (Board Chairman)

If you would like more information on how we operate, just drop us a line (email addresses follow):

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Editors' Note: For more "League Player News", or to sign-up for "free" periodic electronic news flashes, view league rules and league standings, etc. visit "League Players' Corner" on the Bowers' Corner "League Players' Corner": <http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com>